

***Amendments to the Claims***

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) In a receiver that recovers a digital vestigial sideband <sup>VSB</sup> ~~(VSB)~~ VSB signal, a method for detecting the phase of the recovered digital signal comprising:

forming from the recovered digital VSB signal a first data stream and a second data stream comprising a Hilbert Transform pair;

generating a third data stream that represents tentative decisions from the first data stream;

comparing the first and third data streams to generate a symbol error signal;

combining the symbol error signal and the second data stream to form a phase error signal; and

~~reducing the phase error signal via a voltage controlled oscillator (VCO).~~  
~~coupling the phase error signal to a voltage controlled oscillator (VCO) VCO to reduce the phase error signal.~~

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, ~~in which~~ wherein the symbol error signal is delayed before <sup>said combining</sup> ~~combination~~ with the second data stream.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2, ~~additionally~~ further comprising equalizing the third data stream and combining the equalized third data stream with the first data stream ~~prior to generating the third data stream.~~

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, ~~additionally~~ further comprising equalizing the third data stream and combining the equalized third data stream with the first data stream ~~prior to generating the third data stream.~~

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4, ~~in which~~ wherein the second data stream is delayed by a given amount during formation of the first and second data streams and the ~~the~~ symbol error signal is delayed by the given amount before, <sup>said</sup> ~~comparison~~ combining with the second data stream.